—is now compelled to continue the fight for existence, again forced upon it, with the full employment of all the weapons which are at its disposal,"

Attached to the letter were two memoranda, one of which stated in the following terms that Germany would no longer be bound by the pledge she had given America after the sinking of the *Sussex*, to practise her submarine warfare subject to humane restrictions :—

" The Government of the United States will further realise that the now openly disclosed intention of the Entente Allies gives back to Germany the freedom of action which she reserved in her note addressed to the Government of the United States on 4th May, 1916.

Under these circumstances, Germany will meet the illegal measures of her enemies by forcibly preventing after 1st February, 1917, in a zone around Great Britain, France, Italy, and in the Eastern Mediterranean, all navigation, that of neutrals included, from and to England and from and to France, etc. All ships met within the zone will be sunk/[9]

The second memorandum set out closer details of the areas within which vessels would be sunk without warning, and made the concession that if the United

States were prepared to carry out certain elaborate
arrangements dictated by Germany, they might
send one ship a week as far as Falmouth without
having it sunk.